



Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: Examiner noted that paragraph 28 of the specification describes the uppermost cavern as being open to the tread surface. Examiner asserted that claim 1 in the amendment filed 8-25-05 reads on German 832. Examiner noted that it is known to provide a wear indicator with color and directed attention to paragraph 49 of Shimura. Examiner asserted that it would have been obvious to color the recesses in Kornelis or Japan 414 to improve visibility of the wear indicator. However, examiner commented that there is no motivation to reconfigure German 832's wear indicator such that it includes a cavern with a roof. Furthermore, examiner commented that there is no motivation to combine German 832 with Kornelis et al or Japan 414 such that a number is provided on a cavern base parallel to the uppermost surface of the tread element. Discussed page 5 of the original disclosure. Examiner noted that a "symbol" may be a color and therefore proposed amending claims 1 and 7 to recite "the indicator being in the form of a number, a numerical fraction or a symbol having a shape indicating the state of wear of the tread" to make it clear that the indicator on the cavern base requires a shape instead of merely a color. Examiner proposed amending line 4 of claim 7 to make it clear that claim 7 is generic to figures 1 and 4. Discussed new claims 15 and 16 which set forth the additional requirement that the indicator is made in a color contrasting with the tread color; support being found on page 5 of the original disclosure. Applicant's representative agreed to the changes in the examiner's amendment.